Chicago Tribune.

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THE SOUTHERN REBELLION.

Movement of Troops to the Relief of Fort Pickens to be Carried Through.—Maintenance of a Government Upon Hostile Territory.—Expedition Under the Command of the Troops.

[Special Dispatches to the N. Y. Times.]

WASHINGTON, Sunday, May 5—5 P. M.

The Government is advised of the fact that the rebel forces at Harper's Ferry are betting the machinery for making cannon at that place for the purpose of removing it to Richmond. The Government certainly should prevent this, and probably will make them prompt movement to that end. It is asserted as plain that one object of concentrating troops at the Relay House looks to a demonstration on Harper's Ferry for this purpose. In adopting this declared purpose of converting the possible property seized by the Rebels, the Harper's Ferry Armory would, naturally be the first point of offensive operations by the Federal forces.

The Virginians have supposed that a large portion of the Northern volunteers now here were ordered to fight against Virginia, but in make sure, they say, that they are unarmed to keep among the troops and draw them out. To their surprise and dismay, they found the men all ready and willing, if necessary, to go to Virginia or the devil, if Old Abe says so.

Thousands of coal miners in Alleghany county, Maryland, have been thrown out of employment in consequence of the recent mob in Baltimore, which, by seizing several of the propellers engaged in carrying coal away from that port, created a panic among the owners of such craft, so that they refuse to go there any more.

When the 8th Massachusetts regiment was ordered yesterday to proceed to the Relay House, it was only after 2 o'clock in the morning, so difficult is it to attach direction they were to go, and the anxiety to leave their destination, with the hurry and confusion of so sudden a preparation for march, made the one of the most exciting and confused days ever known here. The men seemed much to prefer marching to do than to be lying about the camp with little exercise and a scarcity of food for want of means to convey it properly.

At every early hour this morning they left the Capitol, with all their baggage and equipments, and proceeded to the depot, where they took the train for the Relay House. One regimental gun at the Junction preceded to join the rest at the point, while one from Annapolis. Two of the three regiments doubtless reached the Relay House at about noon. They are to have a full park of artillery from Annapolis, and will use it should there be occasion for it at that point, and if needed they will be rapidly reinforced. Their destination, then, from that point is not positively known, but it is understood that they are to co-operate with Fort McHenry and the troops now stationed there. Thursday, at Govs. Patterson and Hicks, of Maryland, and Governor Curtin, of Pennsylvania, will meet at Baltimore, to consult upon the policy to be pursued in the future.

On Friday a train went Baltimore to the ground, to know how the appointment of Maryland and Western Virginia to troops upon the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, as a great military route from the west, and it is chiefly in and by reason of this fact that Baltimore is now occupied by troops of the United States.

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JEFF. DAVIS'S MESSAGE.

The Message of Jefferson Davis to the Treason Congress, now in session at Montgomery, is a peculiar document—as full of falsehoods as the Koran, and as artful and deceptive as a mirage in the desert. He cites history to prove that the United States under the Articles of Confederation, were simply a partnership of limited liability, and that, under the Constitution, the Federal Government is merely an "agent" of the States; with the difference that the principals may repudiate the acts of the agent, and refuse to be bound by them, whenever they choose. Whittling down the sovereignty of the *United States* to this pigmy attitude, he even denies the legal maxim "*qui facit per alium facit per se.*" And he does all this in the face of the prodigious fact, known and of read all men, that the title of the old Confederation of 1778 was "Articles of Confederation and *Perpetual Union* between the States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay," etc.; and that the preamble of the Constitution, subsequently adopted, declared its first object to be "to form a *more perfect union.*" These matters of public record receive no notice at the hands of the traitor-in-chief of the New Dahomey.

From this point Mr. Davis branches off to the grievance put upon the South in the election of Abraham Lincoln to the Presidency. He does not mention that South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas, all participated in the election, all strove to elevate another man to the Presidency, and all sent their votes to Washington to be counted, thereby admitting the perfect legality and right of the proceeding. The refusal of the North to protect slavery in the Territories is skipped over by Mr. Davis as a matter of trivial concern—the great and intolerable wrong being the election of a man to the Presidency whom the South does not like! Fired by this outrage he argues that the traitor States did a perfectly proper and reasonable thing when they "revoked the delegation of powers to the Federal Government."

Peace, Mr. Davis declares, has been the desire of his heart. It was to secure *peace*, we suppose, that Major Anderson was bombarded, Fort Pickens invested, the arsenals robbed, the mint plundered, the revenue cutters seized. The message speaks of the forts and other Federal property in the seceding States, as *belonging to them*, and regards it a piece of the grossest impertinence for President Lincoln to talk of retaking them—as though, indeed, such an act would be downright robbery! It also sets forth that President Lincoln's proclamation, declaring his purpose to hang all pirates found molesting our commerce on the high seas, is an incredible violation of the laws of nations!

Through such a tissue of lies is this message spun out to four columns of closely printed matter. There is not a word, not a syllable, about the stupendous crime of breaking up a great and free government. Wherever the matter is touched upon it is viewed in the light of a virtuous and patriotic duty. This was to be expected of one who regards bombardment and pillage as acts conducive to peace, and the retaking of the bombarded and pillaged articles by their lawful owners as acts of piracy.

The financial condition of the Montgomery government is rather gingerly passed over. Mr. Davis says that eight millions of dollars have been offered to the Secretary of the Treasury but that "it "will now become necessary to raise "means of a much larger amount to "defray the expenses of maintaining our "independence and repelling invasion." He then passes from the embarrassing topic by promising to make it hereafter the subject of a "separate communication." The message concludes with the ardent aspiration of Mr. Davis "to be let alone."—the usual appeal of the burglar, horse-thief, murderer and traitor. After reading the insane arguments and assumptions, which have been noticed in this article, we are not surprised to find the whole capped with an invocation to Almighty God, to protect the just and holy cause of the New Dahomey. A crown of blasphemy, surmounting a body of falsehood, makes the *tout ensemble* perfect.

EFFECT OF THE BLOCKADE.

A fleet of war ships has put to sea for the purpose of blockading the secession ports. It appears that a vigorous blockade is already enforced by the government vessels in Norfolk Bay. No steam or sail craft is permitted to pass beyond old Point Comfort. Norfolk, Petersburg and Richmond are cut off from all access to the ocean. Virginia was the last State to secede, and is the first to suffer the consequence of her folly. Within the next four weeks every port and inlet on the Southern coast, from the mouth of the James River to the Rio Grande, will be effectually closed. It will not be a paper blockade, but an actual one, which will accord with the decision of the Convention at Paris in 1856, which decided that to be recognized a blockade must be actual and with adequate force.

Nearly all the chief ports of the South are situated some distance from the sea coast, on the bank of a river or arm of a bay, as New Orleans, Mobile, Savannah, Norfolk, Richmond, Alexandria, Baltimore. This circumstance renders the work of blockading comparatively easy for a power having command of the sea. Henceforth until the end of the rebellion no vessel will be allowed to enter or depart from any port in a seceding State. This rule applies to coastwise as well as foreign trade. Not a bale of cotton will be shipped, nor a package of goods received. All commercial intercourse with the loyal States and the rest of the world will have to be conducted through the internal channels of communication.

The cotton heretofore shipped abroad from New Orleans, Mobile, Savannah and Charleston, will be obliged to make its way Northward by river and rail to Cairo, and thence "onward by river, railroad and lake to New York and other loyal Eastern cities. But even this route will be wholly at the mercy of the Government. Not a bale of cotton or hogshead of sugar can reach a market unless the Government of the United States grants permission. And the same is true in regard to the importation of goods and provisions. If the seceding States be allowed to receive them at all, it must be through the interior routes. In this way the rebels will be obliged to help defray the expenses of the war, to pay tribute to support the Government against which they have revolted, and to swell the business of the common carriers of the Western and Eastern States, and the profits of the loyal merchants of the sea-board cities. From Alexandria to Brownsville, the rebels will have before their eyes, in the prostration of commerce in all their ports, in the bankruptcy of their merchants, collapse of their banks, and failure of employment for their poor, a palpable manifestation of the power of the American Government, against which, without just cause, or decent pretext, they have rebelled. This sort of logic will do more in six months to bring them to their senses and restore them to loyalty, than peace conventions and diplomatic twaddle would accomplish to the end of time.

The full weight of the blow which a blockade will inflict upon the rebels can hardly be realized by people at this safe distance. But to bring the thing home to the comprehension of our readers: (Suppose Illinois was one of the seceding States, and the Government should blockade all our harbor but a dozen ships-of-war, to prevent the entrance and departure of vessels. Suppose, also, that the Government should declare that no vessel should enter the port or sail out, what would be the consequence to the commerce of Chicago. Let railroad communication between Illinois and the East be cutting at the same time and imagine the ruin, confusion and distress that would soon ensue. It is only by contemplating the effect of an embargo on our own commerce that we can realize or estimate the crushing force of a vigorous blockade upon the material interests of the insurgents. Every rebel will be made to feel gripe of Uncle Sam on his neck. It is emphatically a choking process, from which none can escape. The pressure about the necks of their purses will be as suffocating to their spirit of rebellion, as a gripe of their windpipes would be to the breath in their nostrils. The hundred war-vessels constituting the blockade, will do as much towards putting down the rebellion and reducing the traitors to obedience, as an equal number of regiments marched among them by land. Against the blockade, the rebels can interpose no resistance; they cannot strike back or impede it by ditches or fortifications. They cannot give it open battle, nor yet assail it from an ambuscade. Every man in arms, and every man at home will suffer from blows which he can neither parry or escape. For every dollar it will cost the Government to maintain the blockade it will cost the rebels ten. When to this be added the march by land of an irresistible army upon Richmond; another upon Memphis; a third from Pensacola upon Montgomery, and a fourth upon Texas, the probabilities are, that the rebels will be "brought to their milk." They will begin to discover that a bargain which requires the assent of two parties to make, requires the assent of both parties to render null and void. They will be taught also, that Uncle Sam is able and ready to discipline and chastise the refractory and contumacious members of his household.

So much for the rebels. But let it be remembered that the blockade is a two-edged sword, while the blow inflicted by it upon the insurgents is damaging to an incalculable degree, the injury done thereby to the commerce and industry of the North is such that all classes will feel it—New England in the want of employment for her ships and market for her goods; New York in lack of customers; and the West, in short sales of her breadstuffs and provisions. The necessity for making the contest short, sharp and decisive—for putting a full power and all the resources of the great Government and this united people into one effort to restore order and reassert the supremacy of the laws—is imperative, that the blockade may be raised, and that the business may go on.

TO THE BALTIC.

Advance! say the people of the West. Open the Mississippi; wipe out the pirates; clear the way to the Baltic! That's the cry now which runs from capital to capital and from cabin to cabin all over the West. The men for the work are abundant and full of zeal. The materials are in the government arsenals. The leader will come when called for. The men, the materials and the leader wan only to be brought together, and the campaign may begin. And a glorious campaign it would be. Down to Memphis, where secession is hottest—past the pestilent holes in Mississippi where treason like the miasma exhales from the earth—sweeping past the coast in Louisiana, close to New Orleans and the Gulf—routing traitors from their lairs, digging up the American flags that have been buried and hoisting them on every bluff, establishing everywhere the authority of the law, and compelling respect for the Government and fear of the indomitable courage of the West. That's an inviting prospect. There lies the great river, the broad highway—a national highway—in which our armies may go. Here are the vast magazines upon which the commissaries may draw and never reach the last barrel or bushel. And there is the foe waiting the lesson which must be taught before the country is at peace and our institutions are safe.

Let the foundries and boat yards of Pittsburgh, Wheeling, Cincinnati, Brownsville, Madison, New Albany, St. Louis, Chicago, Peoria, Milwaukee, Cleveland, Detroit, Buffalo, Erie and Toledo be set to work. Sixty days would suffice to turn out a fleet of steam gun-boats, one hundred in number, each armed with two rifled cannon and a howitzer—a fleet large enough, supported by fifty thousand men in steamers now afloat, to carry every, battery to put to flight all opposing forces, and to take and occupy every considerable town between Cairo and the Baltic!

Let us advance. The ten thousand men will soon be at Cairo; the contingents in camp, the regiments in the adjoining States will rot with inaction if they are not suffered to push on. The people burn with impatience to meet the enemies of the Republic, and to open a way down their river to the sea. To the Baltic is the word!

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

THE ALHAMBRA. By Washington Irving. New York: G. P. Putnam. Chicago: S. C. Griggs & Co.

Americans derive their knowledge of Spain and her people mainly from the writings of Irving, Prescott and Motley. The stately volumes of Prescott and Motley make us acquainted with her history and her wars against Holland, and Irving gives us a knowledge of the home life of the people—their tales and legends are told in his own inimitable style, and we see the proud and reserved, yet courteous Spaniard as he thinks and acts at his own fireside. Irving's residence in Spain, and his familiar acquaintance with all classes of people, enabled him to enrich American literature with some of its choicest treasures. This conquest of Granada and Life of Columbus, are monuments of historical and biographical research. In his Alhambra we have a collection of Spanish and Moorish legends and tales of a deep and varied interest. The genius of the people is here pictured to the life. The reader at his own fireside can learn in a few evenings what would cost him months of toil and travel to acquire.

The Alhambra is one of the volumes in the national edition of Irving's works. Subscribers for the work will at once call for it at Grigg's, and those who have not subscribed, should take the earliest opportunity to do so.

Bad Luck with his Alls.

No man doubts the patriotism of Gen. Scott, though all of his movements up to this time have been on the defensive. The time for offensive measures has come. But, however patriotic may be the General, it is somewhat strange that nearly all of the General's protégés should be decapitated by him; viz: Gen. Robert E. Lee, who was Chief Engineer of the army in Mexico, is generalissimo of the Virginia rebel army; Col. Huger, who commanded the siege-train from Vera Cruz to the City of Mexico in outrageous defiance of the rights of the whole artillery, is commanding a regiment of Baltimore volunteers. Col. Lay, till recently personal Aid to the Lieutenant General, is the head of a military school in Louisiana, and Capt. Lovell, who dismounts the only horse battery under Gen. Bragg, was, by President Taylor, removed from a command which the Lieutenant-General conferred upon him in opposition to the wishes of the commander of Lovell's regiment. The treason of these officers has caused the Government a great deal of trouble, but they are now got rid of, and have done their worst.

MILITARY TROUBLES IN CHARLESTON.—We learn from the Charleston *Courier* of the 30th ult. that the First Regiment of South Carolina Volunteers, who served on Morris Island during the attack on Fort Sumter, have disbanded, the men having unanimously refused to go to Virginia. The Regiment called upon the Governor just before delivering up the State arms, and was addressed by that functionary, who tried by a sweet speech to smooth down the ruffled feathers of the young chivalry, but the feathers wouldn't come down. He urged the men to forget past differences, but they wouldn't forget, and so they marched to the State Arsenal, handed over their arms, and took the first trains for the interior.

LIEUT. T. T. Hartsuff, the Commissioner who hoisted the hotel sutler at Washington, has taken possession of Dora county, New Mexico, and sells it the Territory of Arizona.

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON.

Anchises and Aeneas—Sentiment of the North—Military Forces at Philadelphia and Annapolis—Defenses of Cairo—Annapolis and Queen Anne's County, Maryland—Rifle Shots at Assassins.

[Correspondence of the Chicago Tribune.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 5, 1861.

Old Anchises out of Troy on the shoulders of Aeneas, when that city was sacked, is the type of things here of late, when so many have been getting their more helpless ones out of this Capital, to be sacked, as Beauregard says. But the men are coming back again, and they are Northern and Western men who come back—very few of the South, none can escape. The pressure about the necks of their purses will be as suffocating to their spirit of rebellion, as a gripe of their windpipes would be to the breath in their nostrils. The hundred war-vessels constituting the blockade, will do as much towards putting down the rebellion and reducing the traitors to obedience, as an equal number of regiments marched among them by land. Against the blockade, the rebels can interpose no resistance; they cannot strike back or impede it by ditches or fortifications. They cannot give it open battle, nor yet assail it from an ambuscade. Every man in arms, and every man at home will suffer from blows which he can neither parry or escape. For every dollar it will cost the Government to maintain the blockade it will cost the rebels ten. When to this be added the march by land of an irresistible army upon Richmond; another upon Memphis; a third from Pensacola upon Montgomery, and a fourth upon Texas, the probabilities are, that the rebels will be "brought to their milk." They will begin to discover that a bargain which requires the assent of two parties to make, requires the assent of both parties to render null and void. They will be taught also, that Uncle Sam is able and ready to discipline and chastise the refractory and contumacious members of his household.

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J. W. R.

AFFAIRS IN ST. LOUIS.

The Missouri Legislature in Secret Session—Arrest of Members—Authority of the State to be Prevented—State Encampment—Condition of the Pro-tem-tent Secessionists—Stopping Provisions at Cairo—A Mean Action—Miscellaneous.

[Special Correspondence of the Chicago Tribune.]

ST. LOUIS, May 6, 1861.

The hostile attitude assumed by Gov. Jackson, and the well known character of the Legislature now in session, renders the position of affairs in this city one of extreme doubt and anxiety. Whatever the joint power of a corrupt Legislature and unscrupulous Governor, aided by the State militia (half of whom are minute men), can accomplish toward the ruin of the Union men of St. Louis, will assuredly be done. We have no confidence in their professions of love for the Union, and firmly believe that measures will be taken to override all law and every other consideration of honor and principle, and to impose various civil or military disabilities upon all citizens who will not submit to an oath of superior allegiance to the State authorities. While the Legislature remains, as it now is, in secret session, we are all at sea as to what course will be pursued. The Governor and State officers are fierce circumlocutists, in spite of protestations to the contrary, and although it is hardly feasible to pass a secession ordinance, yet some measure to "coerce" loyal citizens of the United States into a hostile position to this Government, is confidently anticipated. The Legislature went into secret session on Friday and remained so through Saturday. It is surmised that the late correspondence between Capt. Lyon, commander of the United States Arsenal, and the Police Commissioners, in relation to the occupation of buildings outside the Arsenal grounds, has been said before that body and will form the basis for military action against the United States. The day that the State assumes the offensive toward the Federal Government will mark its ruin.

'Armed neutrality' is the present dodge. This is what the Breckinridge has been advocating for some time past. Of course your readers understand that it is palpable humbug upon the start. It is, in effect, secession! Anybody who will walk down to our levee will see at once the nature of the neutrality that a few weak-kneed individuals would have us submit to. Thousands of tons of provisions and perhaps munitions of war, concealed in ham casks and guano bags, may be shipped straight to New Orleans. Troops may enlist for the Southern Confederacy and leave for the South with impunity, but not a man must leave the State to assist in putting down traitors. Armed neutrality, if enforced, would have to prevent the transit of arms from the Lower Mississippi to Illinois; armed neutrality would stop further recruiting in this city for northern service, and, in short, would operate practically to make Missouri a faithful ally to South Carolina, as effectually as if sympathy were avowed directly. Yet the *Missouri Republican*, and all other papers by it, are censuring the course with Governors, and when at Annapolis, the enforcement of Gen. Butler is needed to get through the Naval Yard, and also for the cars for Washington. We had also to get a pass for our porter; out of the days since that it was expected that cannon would be sent from the Iron Mountain Railroad to Cairo, and troops sent to Bird's Point, where a battery would be erected to play upon Cairo, should occasion so require. There isn't a gun to spare from this city, and none will be sent. If there were any superior cannon mouldasts available, the work of casting guns from columbiads down to four pounders might proceed immediately; but otherwise there is no way that the State can arm. Gov. Yates, of Illinois, shall take good care that there is none of this game here. We have assurances that nothing contraband can pass over the Ohio and Mississippi, and Terre Haute and Alton roads, and know that it will be difficult to smuggle anything that may be used to our damage over any of the other Illinois roads; while the approach of arms by land from below will be stopped at Cairo. Your State authorities should keep a good look-out for contraband goods passing up the Illinois Central road. Here ask no favors if the arms and munitions of war designed to be brought to the State for Gov. Jackson be stopped at Cairo. Down to day the State troops go into encampment at Lindell Grove, just beyond the terminus of the Olive street railroad. All the companies are full, and the Second Regiment Minute Men's headquarters, over which the traitorous flag of the Southern Confederacy waves daily. The building is used as the headquarters of the Second Regiment of Missouri State volunteers, and the arms used by the volunteers belong to the State. How many sympathizers there are in the Second, no one knows. Not more than half were in regular uniform, the balance wearing blue grey flannel shirts, worn as a blouse, with trousers and boots. Their arms are the old style musket, vastly inferior to the new rifle pattern. Gen. Frost was in his glory to-day. The troops were drawn up on Eighth street and reviewed by Gen. Frost preparatory to marching to the out-of-town quarters. All the old military organizations took part, and I believe were all a woe-begone set of fellows. They will have a hard time of it in camp, and yet the majority are glad of the opportunity to fight like hell just desperately. But it is not likely that they will be called upon to do anything at present in that line. It will be the policy of Gen. Frost to get the men into camp, discipline them, have good order, and then lead them like sheep where-ever he chooses.

The volunteer regiments for U. S. service are now nearly full. Upwards of four thousand men have enlisted, and are now stationed as follows—At the Arsenal 2000, Jeff. Barracks 1000, at Marine Hospital 250, in buildings near the Arsenal 750. Besides these there are 650 regulars, all accomplished soldiers, who have been plenty of active service on the plains. Many of the officers were in Mexico during the war, and will stand by the stars and stripes to the last. Recently the patriotic spirited Union men of St. Louis have taken in hand the supplying of bodily comforts for the volunteers. The movement was started by Wm. Tilly, who has paid out nearly $5,000 of his own money, and procured large subscriptions from other sources. The ladies have been busy at work in sending their assistance. A sewing machine brigade has been formed. Headed by several of our first ladies, and under their control, several score of ladies, blankets, shirts, and garments have been made up and sent to the volunteers. At a large portion of the Unionists are furnishing the women have separate sewing societies of their own, and although uncalled for loaning to the humbler class, they have contributed largely to the same service. Col. Frank P. Blair's regiment is at the Jefferson barracks, and the Colonel and his family have gone there likewise.

There is an undoubted scarcity of first rate military material in this city, for officering companies independent of State and U. S. forces. Every military man capable of commanding a company, has entered the service or the other. The Home Guards, formed by authority of the Police Commissioners, as well as the Union Home Guards, are mustering up for officers. There are plenty of men who can act as drill masters, who cannot come up to the standard required for captains. The Home Guards will however give a good account of themselves, whenever called into service. It is no secret that their head quarters are at Turner's hall on Tenth street, where there are nightly drills. The Home Guards organized by the Police Commissioners are mainly secessionists and their sympathisers. They are without arms as yet, and consequently unfit for service. The police force is daily drilled in the infantry tactics at the Four Courts—can see that although on the outside appearances seem to show that everything is unusually quiet in this city that a volcano is raging beneath a strong military organization on both sides—the smouldering of the volcano ready to leap forth on the first call.

Some feeling is manifested to-day among merchants in consequence of a rumor that all further shipments of provisions for the South will be stopped at Cairo by order of the Secretary of War. This highly proper measure ought to have been taken a week or two ago, and its rigid enforcement will, in reality, be hailed with delight by the loyal merchants of St. Louis and all other cities where a love of country is superior to a sympathy with traitors. We are unable to tell yet whether the report is true or false.

The greatest thing yet is the action of the Superintendent of the St. Louis Transfer Company, compelling the railroads and transfer employees in the freight depot of the company, corner of Second and Poplar streets, to haul down an American flag raised there last week. The name of the Superintendent is Henry C. Overstolz, a native of New Jersey, and a professed Union man. The "boys" did quite a time of it hoisting the flag, but Overstolz ordered it to be hauled down. Being asked whether they were sick any coming down on the boat, one replied, "No, he didn't know that they had to get sick on, as he had seen anything to eat since he left the engine house, six days ago." They bear their privations well, and manifest due respect for their officers, will no doubt be ready to engage with the eyes of the people and the Government.

Gov. Sprague and Staff, of Rhode Island, will return home, probably to-morrow. His official duties call him away for a few days, when he will return, bringing with him necessary provisions for the comfort of his troops. When asked to draw a requisition on the Government for what was necessary, Col. Burnside replied: "We need nothing, Sir, for their months, from the Government; Rhode Island and her Governor will attend to their wants." The artillery are now stationed in the basement of the Patent Office.

The Occupation of Cairo.

[From the Jackson Mississippian.]

This audacious movement has had good effect in developing the designs of our enemies to prosecute the war in earnest, and in its inspiring influence upon the Tennessee and Kentucky minds. It conveys a threat which the people of those States will join their brethren of the Confederate States, in resenting with promptitude. As a strategic maneuver it is well taken. As the *Delta* wisely remarks: "We should not under-estimate the importance of this proceeding. Geography has made Cairo a point of vital importance to the commerce of the Mississippi valley. It is the key to the Upper, as New Orleans and the Lake and the Balize are the key to the Lower Mississippi.

It can blockade St. Louis on the one hand and Louisville on the other; while, if in possession of a considerable force, possessing heavy ordnance, and commanding the railroad leading south of that point, it would menace the city of Memphis and open the way for an invading army to make that an advance post of occupation. It is not pleasant to contemplate such a possibility. But it is good policy to face it fairly, if we would defeat it effectually. It is not safe to trust to the hesitation, ignorance or negligence of the enemy. Fortune is on the side of the vigilant. The best cause may be ruined by confidence, with unpunishable abuse the favor of Providence. A fearless, manship, out of abundant prudence, will always assume that the enemy will make the most of all opportunities, and that whatever advantage it is possible for him to accomplish, he will not fail to realize."

Interesting from Fort Monroe.

FORTRESS MONROE, April 28, 1861.

Yesterday forenoon, at nine o'clock, I heard a gun fire, and upon getting up, found that the Colonel had fired at a steamer which was passing. He thought it was the Baltimore boat, but did not like to have her come to the wharf, but she did not mind the first shot, so he gave her another, which brought her to. He did not intend to hit her, but fired ahead of her. About noon a steaming, which was seen running towards a vessel which had been making some private signals, was sent after by the flag officer of the Cumberland. His boat fired a shot at her and struck her just above the deck, at which she quickly showed a white flag. They captured her with three men on board the schooner, and found on board of her some gun carriages, and therefore seized her. She is not yet unloaded, but is believed to have two full batteries on board. She pretended to be bound to North Carolina; but as she sailed from New York on the 3d of April, I think something is wrong about her. At any rate she will loose her guns. The Colonel's family is still here, but expects to leave in the first boat for New York. All vessels passing here will be thoroughly searched before they are allowed to pass.

I think the Southern troops are concentrating solely with a view of attacking Washington, and will let us alone for the present, at least, and by the time they get ready to do so there we will have troops enough to occupy all this portion of country.

The Hospitals in Washington.

[From the Philadelphia Inquirer.]

Miss Dix, well known as the Prisoner's Friend and sister of Gen. John A. Dix, has a general supervision of the different regimental hospitals. The one best arranged is that of the Massachusetts Sixth, in the old Senate Chamber in the Capitol. Miss Lander, whose reputation as a sculptor is well known, is the "ministering angel," and makes, with her own hands, the grapes, jellies and other delicacies for the sick and wounded, besides administering medicines, &c. When she come, she found a poor fellow declining to take tea from a tin cup, sweetened with brown sugar and stirred with an iron spoon. The Massachusetts Relief Association have furnished her with means to provide delicacies, and the poor fellows are grateful indeed.

A GREAT CAPTAIN BY ACCIDENT.—CONTRADICTORY ESTIMATES OF MILITARY GENIUS.—When the false report of General Scott's resignation reached the South, it gave rise to the utmost rejoicing; bells were rung, guns fired, and for two days a carriage and four were kept in readiness at Richmond to bear him in triumph through the city. The press throughout the entire South were loud in his praise as a great military chieftain. They declared that no such soldier ever led armies to the field, certainly not since the days of Napoleon. He was nobody beside General Scott, Napoleon a very poor corporal indeed, compared with him, and Washington not to be talked of in the same breath. But next day the news was contradicted, and the loyalty of the old hero to the flag of his country was proclaimed. And then what a change there was in the tone and spirit of the Southern papers. They declared that General Scott was a miserably poor soldier, that his career in Mexico was marked by terrible blunders, and that he got out of the country at all more by good luck than good generalship. A rather sudden change of opinion and a new interpretation of history arrived at in two days, certainly.—*N. Y. Herald.*

Importance of Cairo—Letter from Mr. Blanchard.

[Correspondence to the Chicago Tribune.]

NEW YORK, May 3d, 1861.

I left my home (Wheaton, near your city) for this metropolis on Wednesday, and travelled from Pittsburgh here with an intelligent young American German, who has been a dry-goods clerk in Mobile, Ala., for the last five years. On Sunday last he escaped enlistment by Jefferson Davis' army, and came North. He confirms the statement of Mr. Wise, in society there—no man between 16 and 50 years of age can escape brutal insult and personal danger, if found in any company of men without a soldiers cap in, at once spotted as an Abolitionist; that ladies otherwise amiable, enlisted and surrounded with wealth, are accustomed to denounce every man who does not enlist as a coward; that in ordinary conversation they are said to recruit the army must not return without bringing Lincoln's head or a piece of him—*an ear* at least; that along his route through Mississippi business was suspended; that two twelve story stores in a small town all closed in the middle of the afternoon, and but one place of business open, which was a coffee-house; that Memphis was quite better in Tennessee; that multitudes have been driven North; that those who leave dare not say they are going to any northern State, but give some other point as their destination; that Mobile fired 100 guns at the news of General Scott's resignation, and had a grand procession in honor of his accession to their ranks; that their papers said his going over was worth more than one million dollars to their cause; that when the news was reversed the same papers said he was old and childish, and of no account, etc., etc., etc.

But I drop this note to say that this young gentleman was urged to enlist; that he told his Captain that he would fight for the State, but would not march out of it. His Captain told him that the company in which he had been drilling was to START FOR CAIRO OR WHERE-EVER it was ordered, and if he would not go with them he would be considered as an enemy to their cause; upon which hint he slipped on board a boat on Sunday and came off via New Orleans.

Now this Captain, doubtless, wanted his company and his $1,000 per month. He may and may not have been ordered, or be expected to be ordered, to Cairo. And if his and other companies should attempt to march on Cairo, the patriotism of Gov. Magoffin may forbid their crossing Kentucky to the Ohio, especially since the Kentucky Governor's Union sentiment has sensibly increased since the Northern uprising.

But to the importance of Cairo fully *appreciated by southern people*, and to its importance in this struggle to no point except Washington itself.

I noticed that Mr. Hacker, in our Legislature, moved that Captain Stokes' company from the big Muddy bridge, and a company of Home Guards, (mobjectionable to Lower Egypt, be placed at Cairo, which last Gov. Yates was declared to favor the change. All that may be well enough and safe enough, but this looks to me like a purpose of Jeff. Davis to transfer the war to free State soil; considering that over in Cairo he could have all the doubtful loyalty there is in Illinois, in Bank and near, considering that he would be much easier fed *and* then got out of Cairo if ones fairly in; considering that the attention of the nation would be concentrated upon Washington—the statement of this young man that his company was to leave Mobile for Cairo on Wednesday of this week, (day before yesterday,) I thought I would write you this note, with no wish as to its publication, unless you desire to concentrate more men and attention on Cairo, that the Captain could the company they were to start for Cairo on Wednesday, I have no manner of doubt; and I have as little doubt that the whole position of the country at all more by good luck than good generalship. A rather sudden change of opinion and a new interpretation of history arrived at in two days, certainly.—*N. Y. Herald.*

RIGHT.—Rev. Francis S. Evans, late editor of the Baltimore *Patriot*, who was driven from that city by the secession ruffians because he was for the Union always, has been appointed Deputy Collector of the Port of Baltimore.

Blockading Squadron.

The Administration is determined to place in commission every available vessel it can lay its hands upon for the purpose of blockading the ports of the seceded States, and conveying troops from the loyal ports to points of attack.

We append a table of the vessels already in use and soon to be used for blockading purposes, together with the armament of each. It does not embrace a score of our ships in foreign seas, which have been ordered home. Nor does it embrace numerous steamers and clipper ships which Government is negotiating for, and perhaps not all of the gun-boats now sitting out. But the list makes a formidable fleet, against which the rebels have nothing to match.

Vessels.	Guns.	Where.	Time required to fetch.
Niagara	12	Home squadron	—
Susquehanna	12	Key West	2 weeks.
Minnesota	40	Boston	Ready.
Wabash	40	New York	Ready.
Colorado	40	Boston	N'y'd'y.

SAILING FRIGATES.

Potomac	50	New York	4 weeks
St. Lawrence	50	Philadelphia	4 weeks
Raritan	50	Portsmouth	4 weeks.
Sabine	50	Home squadron	—
Total	200		

STEAM SLOOPS-OF-WAR.

Brooklyn	25	Home squadron	—
Mississippi(side wh'l)	11	Boston	Ready.
Powhatan (side wh'l)	11	Home squadron	—
Pawnee	8	Home squadron	—
Susquehanna	8	Home squadron	—
Pensacola	19	Washington	3 mo's.
Total	73		

STEAM GUN-BOATS.

Harriet Lane	6	Home squadron	—
Wyandotte	6	Home squadron	—
Mohawk	8	Home squadron	—
Crusader	8	Home squadron	—
Uncle Ben Witch	3	Philadelphia	—
Michigan	1	Erie, Pa	—
Total	32		

SAILING SLOOPS-OF-WAR.

Savannah	24	New York	6 days.
Jamestown	20	Philadelphia	3 weeks.
Vincennes	20	Boston	3 weeks.
Marion	16	Portsmouth	3 weeks.
Dale	16	Philadelphia	3 weeks.
Preble	16	Boston	3 weeks.
St. Louis	24	Home squadron	—
Cumberland	24	Home squadron	—
Macedonian	24	Home squadron	—
Total	180		

BRIGS.

Bainbridge	6	Boston	Ready.
Perry	6	Home squadron	—
Total	12		

MERCHANT STEAMERS CONVERTED INTO GUN-BOATS

Monticello	3	Home squadron	—
Quaker City	3	Home squadron	—
Yankee	3	Home squadron	—
Bantstville	3	New York	Ready.
Boston	3	New York	Ready.
Mount Vernon	3	New York	N'y rdy.
R. R. Cuyler	3	New York	Ready.
Keystone State	3	Home squadron	—
Montgomery	3	New York	Fitting.
Daylight	3	New York	Fitting.
Penguin	3	New York	To fit.
Albatross	3	New York	To fit.
Relief	brass	New York	Fitting.
Resolute	brass	New York	Fitting.
R. B. Cadwalader	4	Boston	Fitting.
S. R. Spalding	4	Boston	Fitting.
Total	50		

RECAPITULATION.

	Guns.
Sailing frigates	200
Steam sloops-of-war	73
Steam gun-boats	32
Sailing sloops-of-war	180
Brigs	12
Merchant steamers converted	50
Grand total	731

It is reported that the Government have given orders to the superintendents of the navy yards to have twenty powerful steam propelled gun-boats of not exceeding eight feet draft, built in the shortest possible space of time. The merchant ship yards will be set at work on them. Also the iron works of private companies to furnish the machinery.

Marylandand Jeff. Davis—Ellsworth's Zouaves—Gov. Sprague's Men—Gen. Butler.

WASHINGTON, May 4, 1861.

It looks as though Maryland must of necessity be occupied by federal forces.

That the rebel leaders will resort to the most desperate measures to get control of Maryland, there is every reason to believe. Her secession is the key to their designs against Washington.

Jeff. Davis tickles the ear of the South, and stimulates enlistments by holding out the idea of capturing Washington. The grand military movement. His followers believe in it religiously. I know one resident of this city who left his housekeeping time since, and whose family expect him back soon with the Southern army. I know another, an intelligent man, but a rabid Secessionist, who is now in Virginia, and who only a day or two since gravely and sincerely announced that Washington would be captured by the Confederate forces, of whom he numbers one, but from whom he had no idea of taking Washington by assault. He expected once to *steal* it by the aid of treachery and imbecility here, but the day of that hope has long since passed, and he relies now chiefly on the expectation that by the secession of Virginia and Maryland, the city will become untenable for the Government, and will be abandoned. If Maryland puts herself in hostility to the Federal Government, and is not subjugated, of course Washington would be untenable, for it would continue to grow, cut off from prompt means of communication with the outer world. Hence the importance to the Secessionists to have Maryland in their hands.

Ellsworth's Zouaves, some of them, have been bothered to know what to do with their arms, but the great body of them behave very well. They are quartered now in the Representatives' Hall. They complain that the Government does not supply their physical wants. One said to me that he was perfectly willing to fight and be shot, but didn't know as he wanted to be starved to death. On being asked whether they were sick any coming down on the boat, one replied, "No, he didn't know that they had to get sick on, as he had seen anything to eat since he left the engine house, six days ago." They bear their privations well, and manifest due respect for their officers, will no doubt be ready to engage with the eyes of the people and the Government.

Gov. Sprague and Staff, of Rhode Island, will return home, probably to-morrow. His official duties call him away for a few days, when he will return, bringing with him necessary provisions for the comfort of his troops. When asked to draw a requisition on the Government for what was necessary, Col. Burnside replied: "We need nothing, Sir, for their months, from the Government; Rhode Island and her Governor will attend to their wants." The artillery are now stationed in the basement of the Patent Office.

Secession Items.

It is reported that the Secessionists have taken possession of the Arsenal at Little Rock, Ark., and the Governor has called out the militia to defend it.

The Secessionists of Memphis, Tenn., have seized the Custom House, Post Office, Marine Hospital, and Navy Yard, and have hoisted the Confederate flag over them.

The Secessionists of Nashville, Tenn., have seized the Arsenal, and have hoisted the Confederate flag over it.

The Secessionists

PROF. WOOD'S

RESTORATIVE CORDIAL

AND

BLOOD RENOVATOR

Is Precisely What Its Name Indicates,

For while pleasant to the taste it is revivifying, exhilarating, more vitalizing and strengthening than any other preparation ever before offered to the afflicted. Also for victims of dissipation and excesses of every description, whether resulting from the use of the vicious habits of youth or the indiscretions of mature years, it is the most wonderful restorative in existence. It is a peculiar form as to be adapted to the weak or delicate female, and yet so powerful as to be the most powerful male, and for all nervous and debilitated persons, whether suffering from Spermatorrhœa, Impotency, Sexual Debility, Nervousness, Sleeplessness, Dyspepsia, Nausea, &c., its soothing and permanently strengthening properties, exerts a magic influence in the establishment of health where before existed only misery and despair. Ordered by physicians by it within the last two years, and in all cases it has given perfect satisfaction. For sale by J. H. JOHNSON, 181 S. State street, Chicago, and by all druggists. 8m-W&S-W-Y-1y

Dr. Kennedy's Medical Discovery

[illegible]

Restorative Cordial.

The experience of thousands proves that to promptly check the progress of the vital energy, pain must cease, and with it the wearisome, distressing and irritating symptoms of the following complaints:

INDIGESTION, DYSPEPSIA, LOSS OF APPETITE
FAINTNESS, NERVOUS IRRITABILITY, PALPITATION OF THE HEART, LANGUOR,
DIZZINESS, INDOLENT COMPLAINT,
CONSUMPTION,

And all that class of causes so fearfully fatal, called female weaknesses and irregularities,

THERE IS NOTHING EQUAL!

Also, Liver derangements or Torpidity, and Liver Complaints, Diseases of the Kidneys, or any general derangement of the Urinary system.

It will not only cure the debility following CHILLS AND FEVER, but prevent it if taken while suffering from chronic ague poison, and cure the diseases it does. It is a most wonderful remedy.

TRAVELLERS should have a bottle with them, as it will prevent any change of climate and water from affecting the system. Also, for use in Hospitals, Infirmaries, &c., it would be in the hands of all professional men a treasure.

LADIES not accustomed to much out-door exercise should always use it.

Any one need but use it, for it is a perfect relief. Taken a month or two before the final trial, you will find the debility will be robbed of half its terrors.

THERE IS NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT

The Cordial is all we claim for it!!

MOTHERS, TRY IT.

And to you we appeal, to detect the illness or decline in each of your children, and ere the fell destroyer lays your son and husband, for while the Fever, Consumption, Salt Rheum, and other diseases are preparing graves, rather than let their condition be known in time, the latter will die of ignorance, and the former, through mistaken delicacy, will with the exercise of a moment's forethought, and being mostly self-treated in the home circle, prevent it, and still be able to attend their laid fall. But the time is at hand when you will be called upon to act with energy, or we are very much mistaken, and to whom your suffering will be justly laid.

Prof. Wood's Restorative Cordial and Blood Renovator,

As the remedy which should be always on hand in time of need.

O. J. WOOD & CO., Proprietors,
No. 312 Broadway, New York, and 114 Market St., Chicago.

Price, One Dollar per Bottle.

The following is but one of a business letter, to many, many more, which Prof. Wood is therefore in possession of:

MONROE, Conn.

PROF. O. J. WOOD—DEAR SIR: Please allow me to say that I have been using your Restorative Cordial and Blood Renovator. I have been sick for many years, and have tried many kinds of medicine to get relief, and have found but very little benefit, until I used yours. I used about two bottles and feel much better. I took a bad cold over a year ago, which settled on my lungs, and I have been very sick with it. I saw your medicine advertised in the Bridgeport Farmer, and sent for it, and got it from Mr. Hall. I have taken it, and it has greatly helped me. I shall get some more, for I consider it a good medicine.

Yours respectfully,
DAVID F. WHITLOCK.

Take every one, no matter how low down or far gone they have suffered, experience almost instantaneous relief from MANY MANY THOUSANDS will bear witness to what they have suffered, and how they were relieved, so no one need fear; there is no disease that can withstand the power of this great remedy. One bottle will save you from suffering and a prostration of months.

Read the following letter, just received:

MR. W. KING, JR., Buffalo, N. Y.—I purchased of you one bottle of Prof. Wood's Restorative Cordial and Blood Renovator, and found myself entirely relieved of a disease of long standing, and which had baffled the skill of the most celebrated physicians. I shall be exceedingly happy to recommend it to all who may be afflicted with the same disease that I had, as I consider it the best medicine for the stomach and liver now in use.

Yours truly,
ISAAC HOWELL.

New Haven, Oneida County, N. Y., Feb. 25th, 1861.

PROF. WOOD AND HIS TRIUMPHS.

The following complimentary notice of Prof. Wood is written by Philip Johnson, Esq., the well known Secretary of the Mercantile Mutual Insurance Co.:

Never before in the annals of the world's history has there been a remedy discovered which has met with such general favor throughout the length and breadth of the land as Prof. O. J. Wood's Restorative Cordial and Blood Renovator. The combination of its rich, combined with the Restorative principles, is truly wonderful, and is destined to be a blessing to all who may be afflicted with any disease of the blood.

If a remedy with reputation, founded upon over thirty years of success is any compensation for the skill and ingenuity of the inventor, Prof. Wood has a right to feel indeed proud of the patronage of all classes—the humble as well as the eminent—the subjects of the Queen are his patrons, and the whole civilized world cannot be—neither can the whole world produce a more worthy recipient of honor and fame.

"Wood's Restorative" is a certain cure for all diseases of the blood—Dyspepsia it is a specific, and for all diseases of the liver it is the only remedy that will cure it below to time. One trial will prove these facts. Don't be deceived by taking any other, but send the money to the Doctor, or orders can be sent to all Druggists, New York.

RAVEN CREEK, January 28, 1861.

PROF. WOOD—DEAR SIR: Allow me to express to you my gratitude for the benefit I have received from the use of your Restorative Cordial and Blood Renovator. Having been afflicted with a severe cough, and a pain in the region of the lungs, for a number of months, and, with a special derangement of the stomach and liver, I employed two physicians, and tried a number of remedies without any relief, and being mostly confined to my room and a good part of the time to my bed, I was induced to try your remedies. In my former letter I stated that I had received no benefit, but I am happy to say that I have received great benefit from the use of your medicines, and I feel confident that, if I continue to use them, I will be entirely restored to health. Providence, in the form of your medicines, has been my friend in my hour of need, and I feel that I cannot express my gratitude to you in words for what you have done for me. I therefore inclose a dollar for another bottle of your Cordial and Blood Renovator. If it does me as much good and what was better, I shall be satisfied. I remain, dear sir, yours, with gratitude, JOHN BEST.

Prof. Wood's Restorative Cordial and Blood Renovator has strictly been tried by hundreds of the citizens of St. Louis, as the most wonderful remedy ever offered to the afflicted, and has not failed in a single instance to effect a perfect cure. Its operations are mild and pleasant, and have found but very little opposition to its use. Many physicians have tried it themselves, and have become its warmest friends. For all Rheumatic and Nervous diseases it is truly infallible, and as a preventive to fever, bilious complaints, &c., it is unrivalled. Prof. Wood's Restorative Cordial and Blood Renovator is a powerful

Chicago Tribune.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 1861.

THE CITY.

Go See advertisements of P. Maple & Co. (new Presidential House) as to day's street movements.

THE WEATHER—We had another shower of copper yesterday. May is following suit hydropathically, with April.

RAILWAY.—There are eighty tenders at Bridgewell. Monday gave them twenty-five additional.

MAYOR'S OFFICE.—Mayor Rumsey has taken up his quarters in the same apartment with the Board of Public Works.

STREET CARS.—The police are rigorously enforcing the ordinance relative to straw cows—instead of yesterday.

WHAT can they going to do with shes—hey?

AUTUMN CLUB.—We are requested to state that the regular monthly meeting of the Chicago Autumn Club is postponed till next month, when due notice will be given.

PRESENTED.—Gov. A. Kansey, Col. A. T. Pierson, Mayor T. J. Gilbriath of Minnesota, Hon. David Tod, Judge Dauley of Ohio, are stopping at the Tremont House.

AN INTERNAL MEETER.—A man named Philip Kline was held yesterday for further examination on the charge of an indecent assault upon a little girl only five years of age, daughter of Mrs. M. B. Raymond, residing on South Clark street.

RUNAWAY.—A spirited pair of horses had a runaway on North Clark street on Monday evening, near the corner of Clark and Michigan streets. They came in contact with the heavy grocery wagon of Messrs. Goss & Hoag, upsetting the same and breaking one of the axles. The fugitives belonged to J. Bradley.

TWO FLAGS.—A. Judson Hyde, music dealer, at 61 South Clark street, has issued a very neat envelope with the two flags, one of them the glorious "red, white and blue," in excellent engraving, the other the Palmetto and Rattlesnake looking as though it was in a bad way, which it certainly is.

SALE OF FINE HORSES.—Mr. George Smith has purchased a splendid team of black horses from Mr. Stewart, of this city, with the intention of taking them to Scotland. They are a handsome pair and have made fast time in harness. They will make a fine representation of American carriage horses among the stock over the water.

THE CREW OF THE STAR OF THE WEST.—The Illinois Central Railroad Company and the Mich. Southern generously passed free the company of ten, late of the crew of the Star of the West. They visited all endeavors to enlist them at Montgomery, and go through to Washington to tender their services to the Flag of our Union.

THE NEW CITY CLERK.—An excellent appointment is that made by Mayor Rumsey and confirmed by the Council installing A. J. Marsh as City Clerk. Mr. Marsh has been for the last six years connected with this department of city affairs, and has experience, tact and industry to make him a capital incumbent of this post.

NOTICE.—The ladies of the North Side are requested to meet at the Lecture Room of the North Presbyterian Church on Wednesday at 2 P. M., to work, for our volunteers. Unbleached yard wide muslin will be required for the work especially assigned to us in conference with the Medical Department of Cairo, and it is desired that it be accomplished as speedily as possible. Will every lady come early, and be provided as far as possible with materials? Per order of Committee.

A BOX FOR THE CHICAGO LIGHT ARTILLERY.—The ladies of St. James Church intend to send on Friday evening, a box of necessary and useful articles down to Cairo, for the "Chicago Light Artillery Company." Any one desiring to aid in this enterprise, may send anything suitable or desirable for camp life to the residence of Rev. Dr. Clarkson, on the corner of Rush and Huron streets, before Friday, noon.

Persons intending to contribute may find out what the company most need by inquiring at the above place. No lint or bandages are needed.

THE SPRINGFIELD RIFLE.—In another column we call attention to the advertisement of Messrs W. B. Long & Co. of 84 Cliff street, New York, sole American Agents of the Royal Establishment of the Enfield Rifle Musket, Messrs. Joseph Schofield & Sons of Birmingham, England. This is the pattern used by the British Government. Orders for these arms will be filled in turn as they are received. E. Atkinson, the representative of the New York house, visits the Northwest to take orders from those who desire this admirable weapon. He is at the Tremont House, wherefore of these muskets may be seen for a day or two.

Capt. John Smith.

The hiring of all evening were fired in honor of the arrival of Capt. James Smith, the gallant commander of the Chicago Light Artillery, who makes a flying visit to this city. He said he reminded were the first to occupy the post at Cairo, since which they have held a point second only in importance to Washington itself. The Light Artillery will remain there, though heavier pieces will doubtless be supplied them.

Wing Raising at the West Side Union

Yesterday, a little after one o'clock p. m., our community were aroused from the quiet, and composure that follows the dinner hour, by the sound of commotion. In this era the burning of powder in "pound and a half," to two pounders, betokens something, for those be war times, and the sponge could scarcely have been wet down in the gun, following the first discharge, when our citizens sprang to their feet, and in a moment there were questions enough asked in the next two minutes to furnish a full town catechism to every child in the city. We may add that answers were flitted to the same with a promptness and veracity which would do credit to the Hebrew Washington correspondent of a New York paper, and perhaps we may add, we very much like this class of information.

What is that firing for?

Why, J. F. Davis and Beauregard have come up the South Branch on a canal boat, with a letter of marque, have captured Wm. Reaves' private brig, "Lizzie," and by this time the steam tug "Hope" is towing her down the river, with the stars and stripes floating from the peak, and a point second only in importance to Washington itself. The Light Artillery will remain there, though heavier pieces will doubtless be supplied them.

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A MERCHANT'S MEETING IN THE [illegible]

Two companies of cavalry from this city having been accepted, to be mustered into the service of the Government, the work of equipping them has begun in earnest. These are the Chicago Dragoons, Capt. W. B. Minter, and the Washington Light Cavalry, Capt. Schaumberg, Adjutant Chesney.

By the new law the States are to pay $8 per month for the use of each horse, the company to provide themselves with the same, and for this purpose Capt. Minter and Mr. Haas, respective of these respective commands, are now in the city. To the credit of our business men it should be said, that not one single offer of liberality in regard to the matter has been made, but on the contrary the greatest alacrity is experienced in securing at once the advance of the full sum required, and this will be in time to report to Col. Taylor at Cairo for both these companies.

This substantial sum, in these tight times, has created, as may easily be imagined, quite a stir in the horse market. Our city has an acknowledged reputation, by and wide, as a horse mart, and a decided sensation prevailed in horse circles yesterday. The locality designated by Capt. Minter, who wishes to purchase one hundred good horses for the Chicago Dragoons, was Morgan's sale stable, on the alley in the rear of the new Sherman House, where, all day long, a horse convention was in progress, largely attended by the interest in horse science, and a more outside crowd of spectators who enjoyed the whole scene hugely. Several were heard to express deep conviction that it was better than a circus show.

A very excellent display of horses was made. The colors were generally dark. The ride and boys prevailed, with one or two blacks, and several grades of sorrel. The animals were brought in from all sources both in the city, from cars recently, and by citizens, and from the adjoining country. They were tethered in a vacant lot and tried one by one before Capt. Barker, Mr. Morgan and the crowd at large.

The crowd stood ranged on each side the alley, and the animals came out singly, mounted by ladies and gentlemen that are to and indigenous about stables, who pointed a quality of adhesiveness to the spinal column of a horse marvellous to the uninitiated, but which if transferable, would be purchased outright at a heavy sum by some of our green cavalry and field officers in these days.

One part of the trial consisted of sending the horse and his rider at a leaping pace down through the lane of spectators across the block from Clark street to Lasalle, generally accomplished at breakneck speed, generously assisted by the "Hi Hi" of the crowd, punches from canes and umbrellas, and slashing cuts of whips. Some of the animals stopped short, others didn't, some shied at the crowd and sent them sprawling in all directions. One made a sudden dart into the area of the Sherman House, but was turned back.

Another precipitated himself into the stable yard at the side of the track, and thus without advising with his rider, why need so, and realized the idea of a tangent in handsome style, the boy fortunately saving his neck by alighting on the vest pattern of a stout bystander, who seemed struck with the idea.

There were horses offered that caused a laugh, with the progressive advice to their owners to remove their "cow-bait." But there were many that elicited a good deal of interest, if by nothing more than the fact that they were to be taken at once to Cairo, where Dragoons have been ordered, for immediate use. Judging from the results of yesterday they will be an airship throughout, and the Washington Cavalry will be first class in every respect.

There were other equipments in state of forwardness.

Capt. Barker's Dragoons are to be equipped with Sharpe's Carbines, a pair of Colt's Navy Revolvers, and a Sabre. They are a magnificent set of fellows and will make their mark. Our city feels a peculiar pride in them.

Capt. Minter's Cavalry will be armed with Colt's Revolvers, and the Washington Cavalry will be first class in every respect.

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At present writing the horses are being tried, and the riders are being equipped. Several were heard to express deep conviction that it was better than a circus show.

A very excellent display of horses was made. The colors were generally dark. The ride and boys prevailed, with one or two blacks, and several grades of sorrel. The animals were brought in from all sources both in the city, from cars recently, and by citizens, and from the adjoining country. They were tethered in a vacant lot and tried one by one before Capt. Barker, Mr. Morgan and the crowd at large.

The crowd stood ranged on each side the alley, and the animals came out singly, mounted by ladies and gentlemen that are to and indigenous about stables, who pointed a quality of adhesiveness to the spinal column of a horse marvellous to the uninitiated, but which if transferable, would be purchased outright at a heavy sum by some of our green cavalry and field officers in these days.

One part of the trial consisted of sending the horse and his rider at a leaping pace down through the lane of spectators across the block from Clark street to Lasalle, generally accomplished at breakneck speed, generously assisted by the "Hi Hi" of the crowd, punches from canes and umbrellas, and slashing cuts of whips. Some of the animals stopped short, others didn't, some shied at the crowd and sent them sprawling in all directions. One made a sudden dart into the area of the Sherman House, but was turned back.

Another precipitated himself into the stable yard at the side of the track, and thus without advising with his rider, why need so, and realized the idea of a tangent in handsome style, the boy fortunately saving his neck by alighting on the vest pattern of a stout bystander, who seemed struck with the idea.

There were horses offered that caused a laugh, with the progressive advice to their owners to remove their "cow-bait." But there were many that elicited a good deal of interest, if by nothing more than the fact that they were to be taken at once to Cairo, where Dragoons have been ordered, for immediate use. Judging from the results of yesterday they will be an airship throughout